



TO: The Honorable Members of the PA House Labor & Industry Committee

FROM: Alex Halper, Senior Vice President, Government Affairs

DATE: April 13, 2026

RE: **PA Chamber memo: Amend H.B. 2049 - Workers' Compensation Benefit**

The PA Chamber writes regarding H.B. 2049 to increase a workers' compensation benefit provided to cover burial expenses in the tragic event an individual loses their life due to a work injury. The House Labor and Industry Committee is scheduled to consider the bill today.

The bill proposes to increase the benefit to \$20,000 – up from the current \$7,000 which was set in 2018.

While an increase may be warranted, a review of other states' benefits suggests H.B. 2049 would make Pennsylvania an outlier. According to the PA Department of Labor and Industry, 18 states award amounts at or below \$8,000 and 25 states award amounts between \$10,000 - \$15,000. We recommend the committee amend the bill to better align our benefit with national standards.

Thank you for considering our views on this matter. Please contact Alex Halper at ahalper@pachamber.org or 717-645-8730 with questions or to discuss

[Click here](#) to check the PA Chamber Legislative Scorecard.